



Thistly Meadow Primary School

SWIMMING POLICY

Approved by Governors (date)

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body

Chair of Governors

SWIMMING POLICY

Rationale

Swimming is a basic life skill and therefore has a high priority as part of the P.E. curriculum at Thistly Meadow Primary School. We aim for all children to be able to swim 25 metres confidently on their front and back using a good stroke. All children in Year 3, 4 and 5 swim for a term each, every year and all children who cannot swim 25m or need to develop their water confidence swim in Year 6. All children including children SEND, LAC, FSM, EAL and all other vulnerable groups have access to the swimming curriculum and special arrangements are always made for support in the pool if required and if appropriate. We have chosen to swim at Enderby pool as it provides excellent teaching facilities and enough space in order to focus on the beginners/non-swimmers as well as the more able/gifted children who can be challenged in the deeper water.

Purpose – our aim is to help every child

- To swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres
- To use a range of strokes effectively (front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke)
- To perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations
- To swim regularly as part of living a healthy lifestyle
- To develop good speaking and listening skills relating to their activities in and out of the water
- To embrace the principles of SMSC as they improve and achieve in the swimming pool

Guidelines for staff and children

- All staff should be aware of the pool's normal operating procedure and emergency action plan.
- All swimming instructors, changing room supervisors and bus drivers must be appropriately qualified and police checked.
- The pupil to instructor ratio is always adhered to: 12:1 for non-swimmers or beginners and 20:1 for competent swimmers.
- There is appropriate provision for teaching/instruction with adequate life-guarding.
- Children will work towards the Thistly Meadow Swimming Grades (Grades 1 – 6)
- Know the arrangements for the roped off areas in the pool, particularly in the shallow end.
- All inhalers/medicines/EpiPens etc are kept on the poolside and are accessible if required.
- There is appropriate supervision of the changing areas and children feel safe at all times.
- All children with long hair should ensure it is suitably tied back (swimming hats are also provided if needed) and no jewellery should be worn by the children (earrings to be removed).
- Available pool time is used for instruction and not recreation.

- All children must have a quick shower before and after swimming – the showers are all located poolside.
- Children should leave their clothes/bags in the changing rooms – either individual or the group changing rooms depending on age and session.
- All children must be aware of all signals/sounds to stop or get out of the pool and should act upon these promptly.
- Children and staff must be aware of the deep and shallow ends.
- Children should not go onto the poolside until a member of staff is present.
- Children should not enter or leave the water until the teacher/instructor gives permission.
- No running on the poolside or pushing others into the water.
- No jumping or diving, except under supervision if required as part of the lesson.
- Goggles may only be worn by children with a medical condition, or if written permission has been obtained by parents for a good reason.
- Appropriate swimwear must always be worn – a one-piece swimsuit for girls and trunks or swimming shorts for boys (not below the knee).

School Swimming Charter

We subscribe to the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) School Swimming Charter to increase the impact of our swimming lessons using additional teacher resources from the national governing body for swimming.

Version	Date	Comment
V1	Date created: 29.2.2016 Review date: Feb 2019	A Gordon